

ESSAY THESIS & TOPIC SENTENCES

Based on thoughts generated in your prewriting and looking through parts of the book that you have marked with your post-its, write a preliminary thesis statement. Don't worry about getting specific details and formatting right. Just get your ideas down on paper.

Thesis Revision. Use the guidelines below to help you develop a solid thesis statement to guide your essay.

A strong thesis:

- takes some sort of stand
- provokes interest
- justifies discussion (should not be so obvious that readers would agree with it without reading your essay)
- expresses one main idea
- limits and focuses topic to make it manageable
- is one sentence
- includes author's name and book title

Topic sentences. Your topic sentence should make an assertion, should "prove" your thesis, and should be one sentence only. Write three assertion statements for the body paragraphs of your essay.

1.

2.

3.
